



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

mary," of which it constantly reminds the reader, only in being shorter. Both these novels tell minutely of bodies restored which had seemed to be dead. We trust that no more experiments in this kind will be tried by story-tellers, whether French or English.

-
14. — *La Famille de Germandre*. Par GEORGE SAND. Paris: Michel Lévy Frères. 1862. 12mo. pp. 295.

"LA Famille de Germandre" is another of those charming stories which the most eminent of French novelists continues to send forth with such marvellous facility. There is no attempt here at intricacy of plot, at startling exposures, or at any of those extravagances which have become almost essential parts of Parisian romance. The issue of the story can be predicted almost from its beginning. The charm of the volume consists in its exquisite sketches of character. The men and the women have each marked individuality, and stand for themselves, and not as representatives of a class. They are not odd, but they are original, — at once natural and peculiar. Nor is it *costume* that distinguishes them. George Sand goes beneath the apparel and its fashion, and makes us know the souls of those whom she brings forward. The background to these pictures of character is striking landscape, which she sets before us in all its beauty, without any lavish epithets of description. She leaves to the imagination of the reader to clothe the objects of the landscape with the colors which they ought to wear. She tells what they are, and not how they seem. We shall not give any abstract of this story, but only commend it to our readers as one of the purest and pleasantest, if not one of the most powerful, of the author's works.

-
15. — *The Russians at Home. Unpolitical Sketches, showing what Newspapers they read; what Theatres they frequent; and how they eat, drink, and enjoy themselves; with other Matter relating chiefly to Literature and Music, and to Places of Historical and Religious Interest in and about Moscow; comprising also four Russian Designs (on stone)*. By SUTHERLAND EDWARDS. London: Wm. H. Allen & Co. 1861. 12mo. pp. 432.

THE title-page of Mr. Sutherland Edwards's book gives a very exact description of its contents. The expectation of a light, dashing, and humorous volume, something in the vein of Mr. George Augustus Sala, which this title-page raises, is not quite realized. The volume is rather grave than gay, but is not less valuable for that reason. It is a

solid book, full of interesting facts and shrewd observations, free from all extravagance, impartial in its judgments, and wise in its prophecies. The Russian people and customs are shown to us just as they are, their defects not extenuated, and their merits not exaggerated. Mr. Edwards wishes to give information, not to exhibit his own power as a writer, a wit, or a satirist. He does not pretend to have intimate knowledge of all parts of Russia, or of all classes, or to be a critical scholar in its literature. His journeyings in the land were confined to a trip by railway from St. Petersburg to Moscow and back, and afterward by sledge from St. Petersburg to the Prussian frontier, and a stay of a few weeks in these two cities and their environs. But with this limited range, he made good use of his time and powers, and had or gained sufficient acquaintance with the Russian language to read it fluently and to translate from it with ease. His account of Russian newspapers, magazines, novels, poems, and graver works, is not taken at second-hand from French and German authorities, but is the result of personal study, and is justified by original renderings from the works which he describes. It is the fullest account of Russian literature that we have seen, and gives a wholly new impression of the strong nationality of the leaders of thought in the Cossack empire. Mr. Edwards quite contradicts the prevalent notion, that all the culture of Russia is French, that this polite speech is the only dialect which the aristocracy favors, and that the hard Slavonic tongue is left to the rudeness of boors and serfs. On the contrary, he shows that a comparatively small part of the literature of Russia is foreign, and that while educated Russians are usually excellent linguists, acquainted with three or four languages beside their own, their own is the favored language. The number of distinguished names in Slavonic letters which he gives is surprising. Especially interesting is the chapter on "Krilloff and the Fabulists." One of the curiosities of St. Petersburg, hardly less unique than the perilously balanced equestrian figure of the Great Peter, is the statue of Krilloff in his *dressing-gown*, in the Summer Garden. Krilloff is the *Æsop* and the *La Fontaine* of Russia, and his popularity with both nobles and people is unbounded.

Moscow has been often described, its colored domes and minarets, its great bells, and great cannon, and splendid palaces, and treasures beyond price. Yet the new picture which Mr. Edwards gives is very fresh and attractive, and has some features which we have not noticed in any other. The great extent of the city, "larger than Paris," the peculiar symmetry of the towers, the novel but harmonious combination of colors, the separation of the houses, the peculiar architecture of the Kremlin and its churches, make the impression of Moscow, as Mr.

Edwards shows it, very vivid in the reader's mind. If the other capital is less distinct in its impression, it is because its lines are more even and monotonous, its colors more sombre, and its architecture more modern. Moscow has grown up from a distant past, while St. Petersburg is the creation of a single century.

One of the singularities of the Russians is their enormous consumption of tea, which seems to be both food and drink, and to take the place not only of wines and spirits, but of solid nourishment. A dozen cups at a sitting are not a large allowance, and the principal refreshment at railway stations and at eating-houses, as well as the principal entertainment at banquets, is supplied by the Chinese herb. The quality is very superior to that used in England; and, indeed, Mr. Edwards thinks that the English cannot understand the excellence of tea, if they have not tasted it in Moscow. The winter amusements of Moscow, including the questionable enjoyment of sledging, are also pleasantly set forth. On the great question of the liberation of the serfs, while Mr. Edwards supplies much information, he gives no decided opinion; yet we can see that his sympathies are with the Emperor. Of the Emperor's genius and abilities, however, he seems not to have formed a very high estimate. His book is, in every respect, a good one.

-
16. — *Account of the Great Comet of 1858.* By G. P. BOND, Director of the Observatory of Harvard College. Cambridge: Welch, Bigelow, & Co., Printers to the University. 1862. 4to. pp. 372. Plates 49.

THIS volume — the third of the “Annals of the Astronomical Observatory of Harvard College” — claims, and we trust will receive from a competent hand, an extended notice that shall at least attempt to do justice to its merits. Its appearance marks an epoch in Cometary Astronomy. The Comet of 1858 stands in some regards alone, among all similar objects of scientific interest, as to its importance and utility. For previous appearances the world was not so well prepared, either in the apparatus for obtaining the desired data, or in the comprehension of the entire scope to which inquiry was to be directed. Never before was “a first-class comet” interrogated as to the crucial problems of cosmical physiology. Until very recently, the heavenly bodies have been investigated only with reference to their position and their laws of motion, and a quarter of a century ago astronomy was little more than celestial topography. Now, if the stars that shine over us every night will not “repeat the story of their birth,” we look to the rare